

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-20 M-02 A-01 OPR-02

SY-04 NIC-01 OC-06 CCO-00 SIL-01 LAB-06 SCCT-02 SAM-01

SAJ-01 DRC-01 /160 W

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R 251425Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5192

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MUNICH 1150

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: PROTEST DEMONSTRATION BY BAVARIAN FARMERS

1) SOME 30,000 FARMERS FROM ALL PARTS OF BAVARIA ASSEMBLED IN MUNICH JULY 24 TO PROTEST GOVERNMENT POLICIES ALLEGEDLY RESULTING IN LOW PRICES FOR THEIR PRODUCTS AND HIGH PRICES FOR THEIR NEEDS. PEACEFUL AND DISCIPLINED MANIFESTATION WAS ORGANIZED BY BAVARIAN FARMERS. ASSOCIATION, WHOSE PRESIDENT, SENATOR OTTO VON FEURY (CSU), STRONGLY ASSAILED FEDERAL CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND FOOD MINISTER ERTL AND CALLED FOR TAX PRIVILEGES AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FARMERS. FEURY ALSO CRITICIZED EUROPEAN COMMUNITY POLICIES, WHICH, HE CLAIMED, WERE DISADVANTAGEOUS TO GERMAN FARMERS. HOWEVER, HE PLACED STRESS ON DISCIPLINED ACTION AS

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OPPOSED TO DESTRUCTION OF FOOD AS RECENTLY OCCURRED IN FRANCE

AND ITALY; "LAND IN WHICH WE LIVE IS ALSO OUR LAND -- WE DID NOT WISH TO DESTROY IT BUT TO DEVELOP IT."

2) SEVERAL COMMUNIST GROUPS TRIED TO INFILTRATE DEMONSTRATION AND DISTRIBUTE PAMPHLETS BUT WERE TURNED AWAY AND THEIR PAMPHLETS BURNED.

3) COMMENT: DEMONSTRATION WAS REPORTEDLY LARGEST SEEN IN MUNICH FOR AT LEAST TWENTY YEARS. DEMONSTRATORS SUBJECTED SOME GOOD NATURED TEASING BY ONLOOKERS IN THIS SPD-DOMINATED CITY WHO COMMENTED LOUDLY ON PROSPEROUS APPEARANCE OF MANY PARTICIPANTS AND ASKED WERE THESE HAD PARKED THEIR MERCEDES. INDEED, SPECTACLE OF IMPECCABLY TAILORED AND ARISTOCRATIC VON FEURY PLEADING FARMERS' ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES HELD ELEMENT OF INCONGRUITY. WHILE THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT BAVARIAN FARMERS, LIKE MANY OTHERS AROUND THE WORLD, ARE IRRITATED AT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN HIGH PRICES OF FOOD ON MARKET AND LOW PRICES THEY RECEIVE, DEMONSTRATION SEEMED MORE ATTUNED TO FORTHCOMING LANDTAG ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN THAN TO ACTUAL SERIOUS CRISIS IN BAVARIAN AGRICULTURE. SPIVACK

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30 JUN 2005

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Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROTEST DEMONSTRATION BY BAVARIAN FARMERS 1) SOME 30,000 FARMERS FROM ALL PARTS OF BAVARIA ASSEMBLED
TAGS: PINT, GE
To: STATE
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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005